

U.S. Serial No. 10/605,133
Examiner: Thach H. Bui
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REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8, 10-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and Claims 7, 9, 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). These rejections are believed to be overcome in view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks to follow.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1 and 10 and accordingly, Claims 2-6, 8, 10-15 and 17 are amended to define the air passageway as constructed and arranged to extend over a portion of the spray nozzle whereby the incidence of solution leaking from the nozzle is reduced. A basis for this language is found in the last sentence of paragraph 25 of the specification. This feature is also seen in FIGURE 2 of the drawings and the position of grooves 26 and opening 24, as well as the spacing of inner portion 23A and air holes 24A in FIGURE 5.

Dobbs of record does not teach the feature of an inlet passageway extending over a portion of the spray nozzle. Instead air aspiration openings 29 are located at the end of nozzle cap 14. This allows for a leakage of solution from the nozzle assembly 26 as the solution would have a direct path out of the assembly. This is obviated in applicants' defined foam nozzle as the air inlet grooves extend a distance back from the nozzle heads 42 and 42A. Reconsideration is requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

As Claims 7, 9, 16 and 18 are dependent on Claims 1 or 10, these claims include the previously discussed and defined air passageways. Dobbs does not suggest an air passageway which affords an indirect air passageway to a foam nozzle. Instead Dobbs suggests a direct path at 29. Reconsideration is requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. If for any reason it is not in such condition, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicants' attorney for a telephone interview.

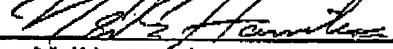
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be due, or to credit any overpayments made, to Deposit Account No. 50-0231.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 20 January 2005

By: 
Neil E. Hamilton
Registration No. 19,869

JohnsonDiversey, Inc.
8310 16th Street - M/S 509
P.O. Box 902
Sturtevant, Wisconsin 53177
Direct Phone: 262-631-4583
Customer No. 24804